MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): Yes. There is a staff of one Forester, 4 guards and 2 watchers to protect the frontier forests, and, as a result, smuggling has largely decreased.

Report of the Committee on Royalties.

165. MR. D. C. JOSEPH (*Agastisvaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state;

(*a*) whether they have approved of the report of the Forest Committee on Royalties; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether the Forest Department is following the report?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The report of the Royalty Committee is under the consideration of Government.

(*b*) The question does not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*).

Repair of bridges in Alleppey.

166. MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that the public of Alleppey are suffering very much on account of the damaged condition of the bridges; and

(*b*) whether they have any intention of repairing the damaged bridges?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) The Kothuvalchavady bridge and the Chungom bridge are in bad condition. The latter is under reconstruction and proposals for reconstructing the former are under consideration.

Increase of Crimes in Alleppey town.

167. MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*): Are the Government aware:

(*a*) that due to busy traffic and easy communication both by land and water, rowdies and thieves have been frequenting Alleppey in large numbers; and

(*b*) that murders and thefts have increased largely in the town of Alleppey?

MR. T. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Improvements in transport may have led to an increase in vagrant bad characters.

(*b*) There has been an increase in the number of murders and thefts.

Improvement of Agriculture in the Pattanapuram Taluk.

168. MR. H. B. MAHOMED ROWTHER (*Pattanapuram cum Shencotta*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Director of Agriculture has visited the Pattanapuram taluk;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether his visits have tended to improve the agriculture of the place;

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[Mr. H. B. Mahomed Rowther.]

(*c*) whether any substantial advancement of cultivation is made conspicuous;

(*d*) the different lines of cultivation existing in the taluk at present;

(*e*) whether the Government have spent any amount of money during the last two years (1103 and 1104) for reforming and improving the cultivation of the taluk;

(*f*) if the answer to part (*e*) is in the affirmative, the amount of money thus spent; and

(*g*) if the answer to part (*e*) is in the negative, the reason for it?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes. The cultivation of rubber, pepper, tea and tapioca has made conspicuous progress.

(*d*) (i) Paddy cultivation (wet land and hill paddy).

(ii) Rubber cultivation along with tapioca as a catch crop for the first one or two years.

(iii) Cultivation of pepper indiscriminately with other trees as a garden crop.

(iv) Cocoanut is also cultivated, but it does not thrive well in the taluk.

(*e*) Yes.

(*f*) The Agricultural Department has spent the following amounts in conducting demonstrations;—

		Rs.	Chs.	C.
In 1103.				
Verukuzhi Reclamation of swampy area (10 acres)	...	300	0	0
Pattazhi Nayar Co-operative Society Tapioca (1 acre)	...	25	0	0
Karavallore Co-operative Society Paddy (1 acre)	...	13	6	8
Total	...	338	6	8
In 1104.				
Karavallore.				
Paddy	...	13	6	8
Cocoanut	...	19	14	12
Total	...	32	21	4

(*g*) This does not arise in view of the above answer.

Assignment of the block known as 'Kadakkamannu.'

169. **MR. H. B. MAHOMED ROWTHER** (*Pattanapuram* cum *Shencotta*): Will the Government be pleased to state;

(*a*) whether any representations have been made in the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly or whether any petitions have been received from the people for assigning the area known as *Kadakkamannu* after throwing out the same from the forest; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether any steps are taken in connection with that?

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